(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to formulate a public record policy if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) The Public Records Act, 1993 (No. 69 of 1993) passed by the Parliament has been notified in the Gazette of India on 22nd December, 1993. The Act came into effect w.e.f. 1st March, 1995.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

Financial Crisis in SAI

1493. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the financial crisis faced by the sub centres of Sports Authority of India in Kerala i.e. Kollam, Alapuzha, Thrissur, Kozhikode and Thalassery due to the failure of the concerned authorities for timely allotment of funds;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken for ensuring the timely allotment of funds to avoid difficulties for the trainees in these centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) to (c). Due to curtailment of budget allotment under Non-Plan from Rs. 11.63 crore in 1995-96 to Rs. 6.00 crores in 1996-97 and non-provision of adequate allotment on Plan side, Sports Authority of India is generally facing a serious financial crisis during the current year. As such all Centres including the sub Centres of Sports Authority of India in Kerala are short of funds. Ministry of Finance have been apprised of the difficulties being faced by Sports Authority of India.

[Translation]

Shortage of Officers in Army

1494. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of personnel in different ranks in army retired and recruited during the last three years;

(b) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has drawn the attention of the Government towards the shortage of personnels in Army in his annual report for this year; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A number of measures have been taken to make up the shortage of personnel in the Army. These include introduction of University Entry Scheme, Direct Entry, Exemption from appearing in Combined Defence Services Examination for NCC 'C' Certificate holders, enhanced recruitment of Permanent Commissioned Officers and Short Service Commissioned Officers, induction of women as officers and re-employment of retired officers. There is no problem in recruiting personnel below officer rank to make up the shortage.

STATEMENT

The number of personnel in different ranks in Army retired and recruited during the last three years is as under :

			1993	1994	1995
(a)	Officers	Commissioned	1459	1430	1576
		Retired	2310	1959	1445
(b)	JCOs/ ORs	Recruited	48338	70681	87496
		Retired	22856	17349	26703

[English]

National Highways

1495. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of State roads declared as National Highways in the States during the Eighth Plan period; and

(b) the State roads proposed to be declared as National Highways during the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) During the 8th Five Year Plan, due to paucity of funds only two roads viz. Kurnool-Chittoor Road in Andhra Pradesh (totalling 369 Kms.) and Ghazipur-Ballia-Chhapra-Hajipur-Patna (totalling 240 Kms.) in the States of U.P. and Bihar were declared as National Highways.

(b) It is too early to give details, since the Ninth plan is yet to be finalised.

[Translation]

Zonal Training Centre to Train Staff of KVS

1496. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision has been taken to set up a zonal training centre to train staff of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;